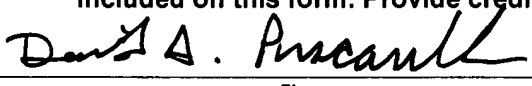



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<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Small Entity)</b>				Docket No. <b>2304.001</b>	
Applicant(s): <b>Herbert C. Hilicus Sr.</b>					
Application No. <b>10/706,579</b>	Filing Date <b>11/12/2003</b>	Examiner <b>Alvin J. Grant</b>	Customer No. <b>23405</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3723</b>	Confirmation No. <b>6666</b>
Invention: <b>APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR TEXTURIZING TREAD SURFACES OF TIRES</b>					
<b>COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:</b>					
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL CLAIMS	34 -	33 =	1	x \$25.00	\$25.00
INDEP. CLAIMS	7 -	5 =	2	x \$100.00	\$200.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>					\$0.00
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$225.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for amendment. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of <b>\$225.00</b> to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge payment of the following fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. <b>08-1935</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any additional filing fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Any patent application processing fees under 37 CFR 1.17. <input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached. <b>WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</b>					
 _____ <i>Signature</i>			Dated: <b>June 20, 2005</b>		
<b>David A. Pascarella, Esq.</b> <b>Registration No. 36,632</b> <b>Heslin Rothenberg Farley &amp; Mesiti P.C.</b> <b>5 Columbia Circle</b> <b>Albany, New York 12203</b> <b>Telephone: (518) 452-5600</b> <b>Facsimile: (518) 452-5579</b>			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">           I certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450" [37 CFR 1.8(a)] on  <b>June 20, 2005</b>            _____            (Date)              _____  <i>Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence</i>  <b>David A. Pascarella</b>            _____  <i>Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence</i> </div>		
CC:					



2304.001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Herbert C. Hilicus, Sr.

Serial No: 10/706,579

Examiner: Alvin J. Grant

Filed: November 12, 2003

Group Art Unit: 3723

Title: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR TEXTURIZING TREAD SURFACES OF TIRES

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 20, 2005.

David A. Pascarella  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 36,632

Date of Signature: June 20, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO THE FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the first Office Action mailed on April 7, 2005, in connection with the above-identified U.S. patent application. The three-month period for response expires on July 7, 2005. Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

06/23/2005 DEMMANU1 00000005 10706579

01 FC:2201  
02 FC:2202

200.00 OP  
25.00 OP